G. R. S. 59] GPB—15,000—22-7-14

# GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1914-15
( Education )

**File No.** 22 of 14

**Serial Nos.** 3, 7 + 8

## Papers Filed.

*Month* Sept^r 1914

SUBJECT.

Memo on ℔ Public Libraries and Free Reading Rooms by Mr T. G. Lakshmana Rao, President City Mul. Council Mysore

| PREVIOUS REFERENCES. | LATER REFERENCES. |
|---|---|
| | |

G.R.S. 11]

1916 w 15

# GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

( Edn )

## NOTES.

22-14
Edn File No. ~~4-16~~

FILE HEADING.

Libraries at Baroda

From

The Dy Comr Nyapur Dt:

No. 181 Dated 26-8-14 Received in D. of E. 1-9-14

| Diary No. 149 | Enclos. 2 | Spare Copies. | Serial No. 3 |
|---|---|---|---|

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Forwards letter no. 43 of 20 8. 14 from Rao B. C. Lakshmana Rao - L.C.E President City Impt. Committee giving views & memo on Public Libraries and Free Reading Rooms.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Submit for orders.

Edn SN 14-9-14

Draft forwarding these to Edn Committee

SR 14/9

Off Secy

Edn SN 14-9-14

Ans 14/9

Ans 15/9

Secy 3 Sept

Also reply to Mr T.G.L acknowledging memo both & expressing thanks

Edn

Ans 17/9

NOTES—First Sheet.

GP B—35,000—16 6-12

G. R. S. 12 ]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Edn File No. 22 of 1914-15

| Serial No. | |
|---|---|
| | Subd with a draft letter to Mr. Lakshmanan re |
| | SW/ 16/9 ; Bracken 19/9 |
| 7 | Letter No. 426 dated 24th Septr 14. to the Secy Edn Committee — forwards a copy of the memo mentioned in the above |
| 8 | Letter No 427 dated 24th Septr 1914 to the President Mil Council Mysore — Acknowledges receipt of the above memo |

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—55,000—27-4-15

10 pages

No. Edn. 2.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner

Mysore District.

Secl

Mysore, Dated 26th August 1914.

DIARY No. 149

From,

A.Subramanya Iyer, Esquire, B.A.,

Deputy Commissioner

Mysore District.

DEPTT. Edn.

No. 22

To

D.M.Narasinga Rao, Esquire, B.A., B.L.,

Offg. Secretary to the Government

of Mysore

General and Revenue Departments.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit herewith letter No.43 dated 20-8-1914 received from the President of the Mysore City Municipal Council re Public Libraries and free Reading Rooms.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

Deputy Commissioner

Mysore District.

From

To

Dated

Despatched

Received

General No.

No.

Enclosure No.

GPB—50,000—8-1-19

(2

No. 43

Secret 22-14-3

THE CITY MUNICIPAL OFFICE, MYSORE,

*Dated*..13.th .August.....*1914*.
20

*From*

T.C.Lukshmana Rao, Esq., L.C.E.,

*President, City Municipal*
*Council, Mysore.*

*To*

Through the Deputy Commissioner,

D.M.Narasinga Rao, Esq., B.A.,B.L.,

*Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,*
*General & Revenue Depts.*
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith for consideration of Government a short memo of mine on public Libraries and free Reading Rooms drawn up on knowledge gained during my deputation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T.C.Lukshmana Rao

President.

M.R.V.

Read
21.8.14
d.f.-

From
T. G. Lakshmana Rao. Esq
L.C.E.
President, City Muni.
Council, Mysore.
Thro: The Deputy Commissioner

To
D. M. Narasinga Rao. Esq.
B.A. B.L.
Secy. to Govt. of Mysore,
Gen. and Rev. Depts.

Dated 20th August 1914.
Despatched — " —
Received
General No. 43.
No.
Enclosure No. one.

Forwarding a short memo on Public Libraries and free Reading Rooms:—

Public Libraries and Free Reading Rooms.

A Memo.

I took advantage of my visit to Baroda to inspect the Central free - library of that State. Mr.N.W.Dutt, the Curator of the State Library took me round the free reading room and library. He explained to me the system and - details of the management of the Library. I found from my conversation with him that both his father and grandfather were librarians and that he inherited from them traditions of expert knowledge as regards the organisation and mainten-ance of public libraries. Under his management the Baroda central free libr-ary has become a centre from which - ramyside, Knowledge has been radi--ating in different directions. Before opening the Central Public Library - His Highness the Gaekwar employed the American Librarian Mr. to systematize the central library in which the ~~place~~ Palace library has been absorbed. He worked for 6 months and completed the work. In classifying the books he introduced a system which he says is an improvement both upon Dewey's decimal system as well as Cutter's expansive system which he calls Baroda system. He explained to me the two systems and showed how the good points of both the systems are in-corporated in his scheme of classification. The Central -

Central library undertakes to train intelligent graduates to become good librarians if they should work in the library as apprentices for a year. The building is a part of the old palace and is not well suited for the purpose of the library. The Childrens' section of the library is a very important one. It is placed under the management of a Hindu Lady. When I visited the - library she was giving lessons in - games to the children. Special care was taker to leave sound moral - impressions on their mind by healthy - reading, moral stories, and interesting games. Children are supplied with suitable books and attractive - illustrations. Children's aections of libraries stocked with useful books having illumirating pictures are bound to kindle in them an ardent love for books. If educated ladies are trained to use children's sections of litraries to engage children in kindergarten, - games and nature study partly from - books and partly from the observation of natural objects, a very good - foundation for the love of useful - knowledge can be laid. The central library contains 30,000 volumes - English & 2,000 in Vernacular. They relate to books on litrature, science, philosophy, arts, trades and almost all aubjects of practical interest. In connection with the library there is a reading room which contains all the

(5)

the important magazines and newspapers. I learn that there are a number of libraries and reading rooms in almost all the important towns, to say nothing of the libraries and reading rooms of the colleges and schools. If the amount spent on these libraries and reading rooms should turn out to be useful I think it necessary that men who have a desire to lead a life of life-lor studentship should be appointed to be the fellows of these libraries with decent pay and travelling allowances when they are made to go on lecturing tours. They must be fellows of the library as well as lecturers. When they go out to deliver lectures in the mofussil the heads of districts and - taluks should be made to convene - meetings, to preside at them and see that all people are persuaded to attend such meetings and hear what they are told and discuss and ask questions if they are so disposed. Unless this - arrangement is made the money spent on these libraries and reading rooms - cannot be made to become productive of as much usefulness as the well-wishers of the country may desire.(The Kala-Bhavan library is well supplied with technical books and magazines. The poes total number of volumes go to 8,000. Two-thirds of these volumes are in the English language and the rest in the vernacular of the country. If the people of any country are to be enabled

enabled to become self helping and self-reliant and if they are to be equipped to earn their bread with the sweat of their brow, they must be made to read, hear, & if possible to see how the people of such progressive countries as of Europe and America and Japan receive practical educat-ion and learn such education to become the main-stay of their life. We want a battallion of men competent to awaken in the people a desire for the comforts of life and a spirit of enterprise to have them we should at the same time see that the gospel of despair and resignation which is eating into the vitals of our society is discounted and the spirit of incessant useful activity is cultivated. If from among the fellows of these libraries a certain number of them are called upon to translate such of the books as have made Europe and America what they are, the most progressive countries, into the vernacular of the country and if these translators are made to go about and lecture to the people upon the different subjects embodied in their books, the speed of progress in the country can be materially accelarated. (These are some of the ideas that struck me when I visited the Baroda Central - Library and the Kala-Bhavan Library. Now that the Economic Conference of this State has been trying to give an impetus to the spread of useful knowledge in all parts of the state by the establishment of - libraries and reading rooms, I venture to

to place this humble note of mine for the consideration of the Government. We have already in the province the Education Library, the Conference Library in - Bangalore. We have in Mysore the - Literary Union Library and the Oriental Library. We have besides these a number of libraries in colleges and schools. The Government may convert some of these - libraries into model public libraries with lecturers and translators and a childrens section attached to them. We may also have a number of great scholars attached to these libraries for research work. Decent salaries may be given to them and they may be made to have one-half of the net income of any vernacular publications that they may be instrumental in bringing out. The public libraries should have reading rooms attached to them and they should have a number of librarians and assistant - librarians. These librarians and assistan librarians should be told to have a bird's - eye- view of all the books in partcular sections of the library and should be - capable of recommending the books. For each section there must be a librarian & it is his duty to give any information that may be demanded of him in that particular section. The magazine- newspaper section too must have a librarian and he hust be able to give a summary of the magazine literature and news of the - previous day to the public that may call upon him to do so. I am not for making

making this valuable information and knowledge a free gift to the people. The people should be taught to value knowledge for the ulterior use.

Lakshmanaka.

President.

M.R.V.

V

G. R. S. 26]

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*Diary No. of letter replied to* 149

General and Revenue Secretariat

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Date of issue 24.9.14

Signed by Sd. A.V.R

Deputy Secretary to Govt.

V

To

The Secy. Edn. Committee

of the Economic Conf.ce

Sir,

I am directed ~~I have the honour~~ & forward herewith for your info. ~~Copy~~ of a memo on Public Libraries and Free Reading Rooms drawn up by Mr. D. G. Lakshmana Rao, President Dist. Mpl. Council Mysore. ~~A.D.~~ I have etc

Sd

16.9.14

SUBJECT.

File No. 22-14

Serial No. 7

No. 426, Rue 1

Over.

Ans

15/9 Secy (S & A)

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*List of enclosures.*

*Copied by*

*Examined by*

GPB—25,000—4-3-13

G. R. S. 26]

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File No. 2264

Serial No. 8

*Diary No. of letter replied to* ———

No. 427/Edn 22-14

General and Revenue Secretariat

(  )

*, the* *191*

Date of issue 24.9.14

Signed by Asst. A.D.R

To

J. G. Lakshmana Rao Esq^re,

President, City Municipal Council

Mysore.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your memo on public libraries & free reading rooms drawn up on the knowledge gained during your recent deputation ~~and to~~ ~~express the thanks of Govt. for the same~~.

———————— I have etc

*over.*

SUBJECT.

Ans
18/9
SW
18/9/14

*List of enclosures.*

*Copied by*

*Examined by*

GPB—25,000—8-8-11.